

Appl. No. 10/697,312

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Status of Claims

Claims 8 to 13, 20 to 24, 30 and 31 are cancelled.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the allowance of claims 1 to 7, 14 to 19 and 29.

Amendment to the Claims

Formerly withdrawn claims 7 and 19, now indicated by the Examiner to be allowable, have been amended for consistency with claims 1 and 14, upon which they depend. The term "optical component" has been replaced with "photonic switching fabric" in each of the claims.

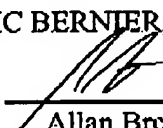
With the above amendments and based on the Examiner's comments in the Office Action, Applicant submits that the application is in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing, early favourable consideration of this application is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

ERIC BERNIER, ET AL

By


Allan Brett
Reg. No. 40,746

Date: February 7, 2007

RAB:MSS:mcg